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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

22 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting Between Mr. McCone and Dr. McMillan -
21 March 1963

1. Mr. McCone and Dr. McMillan discussed the NRO and its program for approximately forty-five minutes, Thursday, 21 March 1963. Mr. McCone jumped right in by indicating his displeasure with the present Satellite Reconnaissance Program. Considerable detail of various configuration was discussed. It was agreed that Dr. McMillan would provide a new launch schedule Tuesday afternoon, the 26th, for presentation to USIB on Wednesday. Mr. McCone wanted to know if his instructions prior to the last launch had been carried out. In the 13 March DCI memo on the 9 o'clock meeting, there is an item in which the DD/R was instructed to effect special considerations for the upcoming LANYARD launch. The record shows that Dr. Scoville discussed this by 'phone with Dr. McMillan, who agreed to take action. Dr. McMillan indicated that such a conversation had ensued, and that special instructions had been issued in regard to the TAT portion but none had been issued for the AGENA.

2. The DCI directed that the special procedures put into effect for the next LANYARD launch would apply to all NRP launches, at least through the end of summer.

3. The discussion then went into some background of problems with the previous NRO charter. Mr. McCone attributed many of the fundamental problems to the previous charter and feels that the present charter will be a more workable document. Mr. McCone instructed Dr. McMillan

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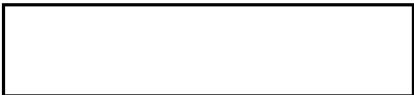
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to involve the NRO in the aircraft portion of the NRP. This includes mission approvals for the Special Group and ~~per~~ peripheral questions. I have a hunch this will lead to a more active role by the NRO in aircraft mission planning.

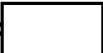
4. The DCI twice indicated that he wanted Dr. McMillan to spend a major portion of his time on the NRO and that he hoped he would be able to resist air staff pressures. Mr. McCone also told Dr. McMillan that he was going to nominate Dr. Scoville to be the Deputy Director of the NRO. Mr. McCone indicated that he did not mean that Dr. Scoville should be in the line of command between Dr. McMillan and his staff, but rather was to be fully informed of all actions of the NRO. Mr. McCone also indicated that he thought Dr. Scoville was the natural channel for working with USIB.

5. OXCART was the only other technical program discussed. Mr. McCone indicated that he thought it was going very well. Dr. McMillan indicated that he had yet to see this program firsthand.

6. Dr. McMillan was informed that Dr. Scoville had not had a chance to check with Mr. McCone on the pending transfer of the Satellite Control Center. Dr. McMillan was also informed that a memorandum to the Secretary of Defense and the DCI, officially transferring satellite control responsibility, would be required.


EDWARD B. GILLER
Assistant Deputy Director
(Research)

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